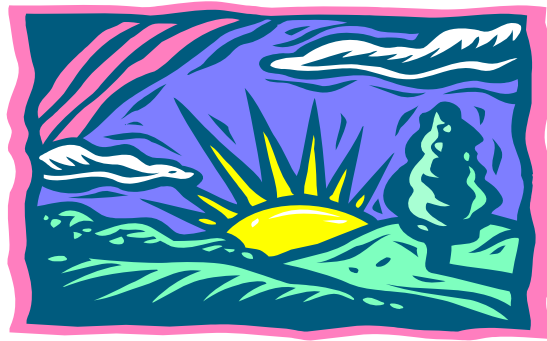


New Jersey State Cancer Registry E-Newsletter
June 2008



We are pleased to inform everyone that the New Jersey State Cancer Registry was awarded the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries gold standard award for the eleventh consecutive year! This award is a reflection of all cancer registrars in New Jersey. Thanks to all of you for your hard work and support.

We have updated our procedure manual, which we hope you will find easy to use. It is entitled "The New Jersey State Cancer Registry Manual, Abstracting and Coding Instructions for Health Care Facilities, 2008". It will be available on our web site in the very near future. It contains specific New Jersey State Cancer Registry reporting instructions, the SEER Program Manual, Collaborative Stage Manual, and supplements sorted by the following sites: head & neck, GI system, lung, melanoma, sarcoma, breast, GYN, prostate, urinary system, bladder, CNS, lymphoma, and hematopoietic diseases. These supplements contain drawings and helpful information specific to each site. In addition, this manual contains equivalent terms and definitions from the Multiple Primary and Histology Coding Rules and the surgery codes for each site. All of this information has been rolled into a huge manual which we hope you will find easy to use. The Manual is quite large, so we recommend that you download it to your desktop for easy reference rather than print it out.

Please join us in welcoming Fran Krol Public Health Representative II, CTR and Mireille Lemieux, Public Health Representative III to our staff. We are very excited to have both of them as part of our team!

Please visit our web site for <http://www.state.nj.us/health/ces/cancer-rates.shtml> New Jersey's official source for cancer statistics, **Cancer-Rates.Info/NJ**. Our Web application provides cancer incidence and mortality data for New Jersey displayed in maps, tables, and graphs. Statewide and county-level cancer incidence data are available by cancer site, gender, race, and ethnicity for our most recent years of data up through 2005. Similar data are available for cancer mortality. Additionally, statewide age-specific incidence and mortality data are presented.

The staff from the New Jersey State Cancer Registry has been busy working to consolidate and edit our 2006 and 2007 data in preparation for our SEER, NAACCR and NPCR file submissions later this year. Field staff will be auditing to ensure case completeness for 2007, while continuing to conduct rapid case ascertainment for breast cancer and cases. We have completed rapid case ascertainment for the ovarian study. We have also just finished abstracting all of our cases for the NCI Patterns of Care Study. Thanks to all of you for your assistance in securing medical records, work space etc. for all of these activities.

We are continuing to focus our efforts to improve data quality and completeness of reporting from non-hospital sources. We are pursuing and have begun to accept electronic reports from several freestanding radiation treatment facilities. We are also working with large physician practices to encourage electronic reporting. If you know of a newly opened freestanding center or a large physician practice that may be receptive to electronic reporting, please let us know. Your assistance in helping us identify these facilities is greatly appreciated.

We are continuing to offer a free software system provided by Artificial Intelligence in Medicine (AIM) which automates casefinding of reportable cancer conditions to the NJSCR. AIM saves the hospital time and expense in having a staff person perform manual pathology and cytology report casefinding. This system has been installed in many facilities in New Jersey and has an impressive track record in reliably reporting cancer cases to both central and hospital-based registries. This system will improve the completeness and timeliness of your cancer reporting. If you are interested in participating please contact our office.

Don't forget to apply for the Award for Excellence in Timely and Complete Cancer Case Reporting for 2007 cases. The deadline for application is July 1, 2008. All registries are encouraged to apply. Reporting facilities will be judged on both completeness and timeliness of reporting.

The ORANJ Annual meeting will be at Bally's Park Place Atlantic City, NJ October 16-17, 2008. Please mark your calendars.